Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, April, 1988, marks a milestone in the history of civil rights in the United States. It is the 20th anniversary of the passage of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, popularly referred to as the "Fair Housing Act"; and,

WHEREAS, The Act makes unlawful any discrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; and,

WHEREAS, In the 20 years since the Act's passage, judicial and administrative enforcement, as well as public and private efforts to induce voluntary compliance with the law, have reduced the barriers in American society to obtaining the housing of one's choice. However, because of continuing discrimination and inadequacies in the enforcement mechanisms of the Act, fair housing remains for many more a dream than a reality; and,

WHEREAS, Shelter is a basic human necessity and the quality of life is greatly diminished when people suffer housing discrimination because of their race, ethnicity, religion or sex:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 1988, as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens to work together to improve the Fair Housing Act by strengthening its enforcement provisions, extending its protections to disabled persons and reaffirming our dedication as a state to the principles of equal opportunity on which the Fair Housing Act is grounded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-Fourth Day of March, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Eight

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE